



Máster en Historia Contemporánea 66612 - Mass Media: source and document

Course 2011 - 2012

Curso: 1, Semestre: 1, Créditos: 5.0

Basic information

Teachers

- **Gema Araceli Martínez De Espronceda Sazatornil** gema.espronceda@unizar.es

Recommendations to attend this course

The general requirements to study the Master in Contemporary History.

Course Schedule and Deadlines

- 1.The classroom practice sessions: personal presentations will take place at the end of the semester.
 2. Continuous practice sessions in digital learning platform (ADD-moodle classroom space). The specified date for submitting coursework will be in Moodle calendar. In the ADD, too, will be include several class materials needed for the study of subject.
-

Home

Learning outcomes that define this course

The student, in order to pass the course, will have to show her/his competence in the following skills:

- 1:**
Students develop historical knowledge and analytical understanding of the concepts and the role of media in shaping public opinion as an engine of modern society. This module challenges students to consider journalism broad interdisciplinary perspectives. As a starting point to reflect on the history of Social Communication is that it can be isolated from the study of general history, and the formulation of media processes as social actors and their impact on the political agenda-setting.
- 2:**
Methodological knowledge and practical use of the mass media, particularly the press, propaganda posters and documentary photography as primary sources for historical research.

3: Through a combination of presentations and group work, readings, case studies, and exercises, students learn about of the main events in the history of the Social Communication and the formation and rising of mass culture in the Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries. Students will develop the skills to explore and explain how the contemporary society and culture are defined by mass media influence.

Introduction

Brief presentation of the course

Study of the medias history as a vital framework for understanding the contemporary world and, at times, as only inventory of current history. Analysis of the dual role of mass media, as objects of historical knowledge and as sources of history. Approach to the History and structure of the media: press, radio, television, film, photography and advertising, as nurtured repertoire of political information and primary source of knowledge and use inexcusable for the development of cultural and social history of contemporary times. It explains the development of mass communication, we discuss the issues that shaped and defined media throughout history. Students learn to appreciate the journalistic documents, and audio-visual propaganda as primary sources of historical research.

Competences

General aims of the course

The expected results of the course respond to the following general aims

The main aim of this subject is to provide students with theoretical and methodological tools for high quality and advanced research in contemporary history. To this end, the general aims of the course are the following: To strengthen students' initiative in developing research projects with a methodology and scientific principles appropriate to their field of research. To foster general individual and team working abilities, participation in research projects, primary sources and bibliographical database management.

Context/Importance of the course for the master degree

This subject, a basic component of the Studies in Contemporary History, provides students with an opportunity to study the most important events that shaped the 19th and 20th centuries in Social Communication History, and also provides a grounding in historical research techniques and primary sources knowledge.

After completing the course, the student will be competent in the following skills:

- 1:** Knowledge in Methods and Sources for Historical Research
- 2:** Analysis and accurate use of Mass Media as primary sources: newspapers, magazines, photographs, propaganda posters. The products of the mass media can be primary source documents if they were produced at the time of the events or phenomena in question. Student must consider by whom, how and for what purpose it was produced.
- 3:** The student will identify what, how and for what purpose mass media documents have been produced so that the student can properly evaluate and use it.

Relevance of the skills acquired in the course

The proposed aims of this course are crucial to provide students with a sound theoretical and methodological background that will allow them to conduct research in History successfully. Similarly, the specific aims of this subject are essential skills to carry out the research process, using critical tools for understanding and analysing primary and secondary sources, applying critical approaches. The ability to develop and apply original ideas in a professional as well as in a research context is a fundamental skill to conduct successful research in the field of Contemporary History studies. The same applies to the ability to interrelate knowledge from different subjects, handle complex information, apply the proper methodology and frameworks, express a critical view and provide conclusions in written essays and oral presentations.

Evaluation

Assessment tasks

The student will prove that he/she has achieved the expected learning results by means of the following assessment tasks:

- 1:** The final project includes both a written and an oral component. For the written portion, you will write a convention-quality research paper. The paper should include a rationale for the project, a thorough review of literature, a methods section, results, and a discussion of your findings. This manuscript will should be about 15 pages in length and should be ready, with very little revision, to send off to a convention. For the oral portion of the project, you will be expected to "present" your study to the class, it will be conducted with the support visual of power poin. Specifics concerning time limits at presentation dates will be decided in class. The individual oral defense of a essay topic which will be chosen and prepared with supervision of the professor during the course. This activity is worth 40% of final mark. The student must demonstrate its ability to expose and argue the topic studied, mastery of the specific and set concepts of the matter to address and his knowledge of bibliography and primary sources of research used.
- 2:** Active Participation in the semminar theoretical sessions, taught by the professor, that each one will conclude with a brief discussion forum ; for which previously the students should read that the professor references has provided in the previous session or to have executed the practical work with the material, hemerográfic or of another type, previously proposed. While exploring each theme we will also work through and examine a set of concepts that have become established as the basic interpretive tools available to those studying. The participation in these sessions its worth 20% of the final mark.
- 3:** The student will write regular short reaction papers assignment in Moodle learning platform. The course is divided in various Topics. Each topic will be introduced by means of the competences that the Topic covers. Under the competence is a list of 'assessment criteria', which can be considered as 'sub-competences', and a guide to what you will be expected to be asked for in the assignments. The delivered of this assignments worth 20% of the final mark.

Activities and resources

Course methodology

The learning process that has been designed for this course is based on the following activities:

1. The study of the subject is based on the semminar theoretical sessions, reading, investigation and the discussion of sources and bibliography.

2. The course is based on practices with primary sources: multiple mass media of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
3. The students should use Moodle Platform UNIZAR . Many of the resources and readings are online lodged in the Moodle application "Mass Media: Source and Document".

Outline of the Programme

The programme offered to the students to help them achieve the learning results includes the following activities :

1:

SEMINAR SESSIONS: This course will cover current research and theory in the area of mass media history.

1. Development, formation and social functions of the Public opinion. The history of the construction of the news in nineteenth and twentieth centuries through the mass media: the media construction of the historical event.
2. The Mass Media as historical sources: 19th and 20th centuries. Theory.
3. The newspapers as historical sources: 19th and 20th centuries, reconstruction of political events.
4. The newspapers as historical sources: 19th and 20th centuries, reconstruction of social events.
5. The newspapers as historical sources: 19th and 20th centuries, reconstruction of cultural events.
6. Propaganda and advertising, 19th and 20th centuries.
7. Radio and television broadcasting as historical sources, twentieth century.

2:

ORIENTATION SESSIONS OF RESEARCH WORKS

1. Main newspaper libraries, collections and databases, main photo libraries, sound and film historical collection in Spain.
2. Resources network: Use and practice. Practices with newspapers, posters, sound records and film archives of 19th and 20th centuries.

3:

ORAL PAPER DEFENSE STUDENTS SESSIONS

1. Instructions and methodology for this sessions will be in Moodle platform.
2. The students will be required to orally defend his seminar paper in the seminar session before to the teacher and class students. The students will be examined for their oral presentation at the Seminar and for oral and write defence of their findings or their conclusions in their respective seminar papers.

4:

SUMMARY AND CLOSURE SESSIONS

Course planning

Calendar of actual sessions and presentation of works

1ª week: Presentation of the course, explanation of the program.

Weeks 2ª to 6ª: Classes and practices.

Weeks 7ª to 9ª: Preparation of the works by the students (without classes; only tuitions and moodle practices).

Weeks 10ª to 12ª: Presentation and discussion of the works of the students. Closure session.

Bibliographic references of the recommended readings